



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture
West Virginia Field Office
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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AUGUST RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during August 2018 totaled 700,000 pounds, this was up 6 percent from August 2017. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 725,000 pounds live weight, up 19 percent from August 2017. Cattle slaughter totaled 600 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 50 pounds from the previous year, at 1,193 pounds.

Commercial calf slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 286,000 pounds live weight, down 11 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 1,000 head, down 200 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 7 pounds from the previous year, at 278 pounds.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

United States – Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.77 billion pounds in August, up 3 percent from the 4.63 billion pounds produced in August 2017.

Beef production, at 2.43 billion pounds, was 1 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.98 million head, up 1 percent from August 2017. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 1,344 pounds.

Veal production totaled 6.5 million pounds, 2 percent above August a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 52,300 head, up 13 percent from August 2017. The average live weight was down 23 pounds from last year, at 215 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.32 billion pounds, up 5 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 11.2 million head, up 5 percent from August 2017. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 278 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.4 million pounds, was up 4 percent from August 2017. Sheep slaughter totaled 204,500 head, 5 percent above last year. The average live weight was 131 pounds, down 1 pound from August a year ago.

January to August 2018 commercial red meat production was 35.3 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2017. Accumulated beef production was up 4 percent from last year, veal was up 1 percent, pork was up 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 5 percent.

August 2017 contained 23 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

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Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.